



# NELSON RIDGE SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Mrs. Baldermann, Principal

Mrs. Fiorillo, Assistant Principal

## A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year at Nelson Ridge! We felt a great deal of excitement starting the school year in person! The teachers were very busy in their rooms getting ready for the students to arrive. I would like to thank them for their hard work! They are now hard at work in the building with their students. We have already seen so much going on.

Our building theme this year is “One Team—One Dream”. The Ridge staff takes on any challenges and meets them head on. We are dedicated to providing all of our students a safe, challenging, and supportive place to learn. Along with academics we are able to offer in person sports and clubs this school year. We have started cross country and just finished Girls Basketball tryouts. We have also started some of our clubs.

Thank you to those that were able to participate in Find Your Way Day and Expectation Night. We are confident that by keeping the lines of communication open, we will have a very successful year! Once again, welcome back and we are looking forward to working with you. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the teachers or the office at 815-462-2870

## CDC QUARANTINE GUIDELINES

**Here are the current CDC quarantine options:**

**10 days** - if your child does not develop any symptoms of COVID, they may return to school after day 10 of the quarantine period. Testing is not required.

**7 days** - if your child does not develop any symptoms of COVID and has a negative PCR test on day 6 of the quarantine, they may return to school after day 7 of the quarantine period.

**Quarantine for a case within the home:** If the affected individual lives in the home and is able to isolate from your child, the above quarantine guidelines apply. If you are not able to isolate the affected individual from your child, the quarantine period starts after the affected person's 10-day isolation ends. The reason for this is that the affected person is able to shed the virus for 10 days, which produces the potential for exposure to your child up until the affected person's isolation ends.

**Example:**

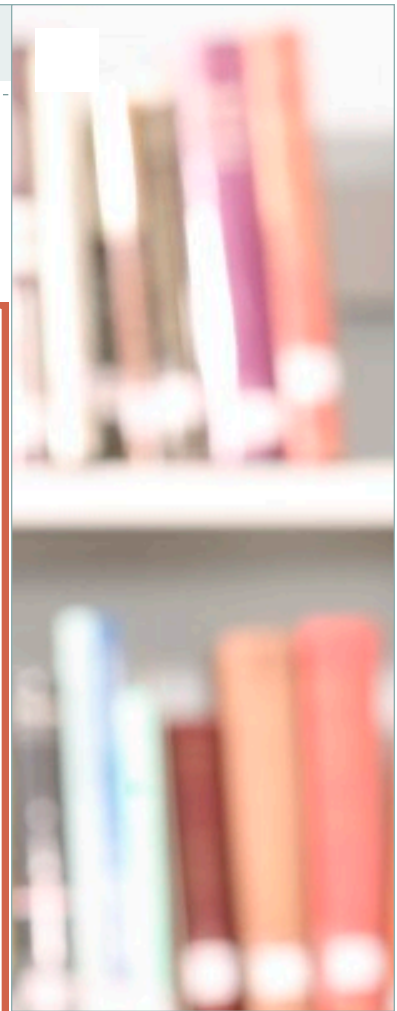
Mom is diagnosed with COVID on May 1st - child begins to quarantine. Mom is considered contagious until May 10th.

Child's quarantine is extended beginning on May 11th and lasts for 7-10 days, depending on whether testing is performed.

Child is able to return to school on May 19th with testing or May 22nd without testing.

**Special Circumstances:**

Quarantine of 14 days is required in our classes with mask exemptions or in settings where 6 feet is unable to be maintained (Ex: early childhood settings and some self contained special education settings).





## ATTENDANCE AND TARDINESS

Nelson Ridge will enforce a strict policy regarding tardiness and absences. Students are tardy if they are not in their classroom at the 7:35 a.m. bell. It is very important that the students have the opportunity to get settled in prior to the last bell ringing. This organization time helps ensure a successful day of learning. Illinois State Laws require that students attend school on a regular punctual basis. We realize that there will be times when a student may not be in attendance for an entire school day due to illness, etc. State attendance guidelines require that we record attendance days (lunch and recess are excluded as these are not

instructional minutes) for a child who is in attendance as follows:

- 300-355 instructional minutes are considered present a **full day**
- 150-299 instructional minutes are considered present for a **half day**
- Less than 150 instructional minutes is considered absent for a **full day**

You can find this information in the 2018/2019 Student/Parent Handbook.

## CALLING YOUR CHILD IN ABSENT

When calling in to report your child absent in the morning, please be sure to call the office at 815-462-2870. Please leave your child's name, homeroom teacher, and reason for absence. If no reason is given the absence will be considered an unexcused absence. If your child has a fever and/or vomiting, please remember they need to be fever free and have stopped vomiting for **24 hours before sending them back to school.**

Please be aware that if we do not hear from you we will make every effort to call you and find out why your child is not in school. Please make sure you call into the office by 8:00 a.m. If you would like homework for your child you can leave your request when reporting their absence. We will have homework ready for you to pick up between 2:00 and 3:25 pm on the homework table in the front foyer.



## DRESS CODE



All students are to wear clothing that completely covers the body from shoulder to mid-thigh. Undergarments may not be visible. Clothing made of spandex or similar material may not be worn unless other clothing is worn over it. Articles of clothing such as halter tops, tank tops, spaghetti straps, short shorts or short skirts are not be worn to school. Shorts/skirts **MUST** come to the finger tips when the student is standing with arms relaxed straight at his/her side.

In addition, no student shall wear or bring to school any clothing that displays inappropriate language sign, symbol, or depiction referring to drugs, gangs or sexual innuendo.

Coats, jackets, gloves, hats and other outerwear may not be worn during class. Anyone who comes to school dressed inappropriately will be asked to call home for different clothing.

## NELSON RIDGE WEBSITE

Nelson Ridge School has one website to use to access the information you need. You can get information regarding clubs, teachers and staff as well as view a calendar for all events at Nelson Ridge such as club times, practices, field trips, etc.

You can access all this information through the district website at:

[www.nlsd122.org](http://www.nlsd122.org)

Or:

<http://www2nlsd122.org/c/index.php/schools/nelson-ridge/>



## *Nurse* *Notes*

The Nurse's Corner...

Back to school time can mean time for head lice to appear. Lice does not cause disease, though they may bring itching and discomfort along with some embarrassment. Having head lice is not an indication of uncleanliness. In fact, lice prefer clean hair shafts. It is always a good idea to check your child's head periodically for signs of head lice, especially as school starts. Lice are tiny insects about the size of a sesame seed. They can be gray, tan or brown in color. They lay eggs (nits) on the hair shafts and prefer warm areas, near the nape of the neck and behind the ears. A nit may appear very similar to a flake of dry skin (dandruff). To tell the difference, pinch the hair shaft between your fingernails and pull it off the hair. If it comes off easily, it is skin. If it sticks, it may be a nit as they are attached with a gluey substance. Routine classroom checks for lice are not done at school. So, if you notice your child scratching their head more than normal please check for the presence of lice. All family members should also be checked. If you find any lice or nits consults your physician for treatment and please notify the school nurse. Special cleaning procedures are also needed at home to prevent re-infestation. After proper treatment, your child will be able to return to school. Always feel free to contact your school nurse with any questions.

Mrs. Dubois RN, Nelson Ridge School

815-462-7809 [bdubois@nlsd122.org](mailto:bdubois@nlsd122.org)



## **DISTRICT 122 VIRTUAL BACKPACK**

Help support the 'Going Green' initiative by using the District 122 Virtual Backpack. We will rarely be sending fliers home in backpacks with our students, but rather post them through a virtual backpack link on our website homepage. You can also get the link through the NLS D 122 website.

## PARAPROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

### ART NEWS FROM MRS. KORDIK

Welcome back to the 2021-22 school year! My name is Mrs. Kordik, and I am the Art teacher at Nelson Ridge and Nelson Prairie Schools. I am so excited to start the new school year in our Art Room! Your child will have Art every other day, two or three times a week for six weeks at a time. We alternate this schedule with Music and Ms. Bendy, our Music teacher, (for instance, when I am at Ridge, Ms. Bendy will be at Prairie and vice versa).

All Art lessons are based on both the Illinois and National Visual Art Standards. Each grade level explores the elements and principles of Art. Each grade level also explores a variety of media. Art history, artists, and cultural art are an important part of the experiences.

I am looking forward to helping our students explore their creativity! I hope you have a great start to the school year!



Our district is seeking interested applicants for full time paraprofessional positions. All positions offer benefits and competitive hourly rates. Below are the locations and details of the available positions:

- Cherry Hill, Excel Program K-1st grade, Hours: 8:00am-3:15pm
- Haines Elementary School, Hours: 8:45am-4:00pm
- Oakview, REACH Program K-4th grade, Hours: 7:55am-3:10pm
- Spencer Trail DK Program, Hours: 7:55am-3:10pm

Please contact Mandy Novotny at [mnovotny@nlsd122.org](mailto:mnovotny@nlsd122.org) if you are interested.



## PE NOTES FROM MRS. CURTA

The PE Program at Nelson Ridge School is designed to focus on three major areas that contribute to one's physical health and well-being. **Movement Concepts** (ex. emphasizing different ways of travel: jumping skipping, etc.); **Skill Themes** (Basic motor skills ex. Kicking, volleying – the students are taught how to use these fundamental skills in games and sports); and **Wellness Concepts** (ex. healthy and unhealthy foods, ways to improve cardiovascular endurance and flexibility).

Please make sure that students are prepared for class – wearing proper gym shoes!!!

As a teacher I recognize that children are at different developmental levels with a variety of needs and interests. For this reason, I attempt to provide all students with experiences that are both beneficial and enjoyable. Each lesson is adjusted to take into account the wide range of skill and fitness levels of each child here at Nelson Ridge!

A main goal of the program is to prepare and encourage students to practice skills and **be active for a lifetime!!!**

Coach Curta

### Notes from the Library READING IS OUR GOAL!!

I am so excited to be back in the Library at Nelson Ridge! For the 2021-2022 school year, I will be alternating weeks at Bentley and Nelson Ridge, as well as supervising the libraries at Liberty and Martino Junior Highs. I am even more excited that students will be able to browse and check out books this school year! Similar safety protocols will apply to the Library as do the classrooms:

- Students will either wash or sanitize their hands before entering the Library to be allowed to browse the book collection.
- Students will be seated three feet apart. Teachers will create a seating chart similar to their classroom seating charts.
- Students will bring their iPads to the Library to be able to search the library catalog for books.
- Students will browse the book collection in small groups to allow for social distancing.
- In addition, students will be encouraged to reserve their books in advance to be simply picked up during their library visit.

Classes will visit the Library once a week; ELA teachers will bring them when I am not present.

More information about library classes and special reading programs will be given to students during their first visit and posted on the [Intermediate LRC Website](#).

Looking forward to a great school year!  
Mrs. Drews

## NELSON RIDGE SPIRIT WEAR

Good news! There is still time to order your Nelson Ridge Spirit Wear. The date to order has been extended to **Friday, September 10.**

Here the link for you to place your order.

[https://palosshirts.com/nelson\\_ridge\\_spirit/shop/home](https://palosshirts.com/nelson_ridge_spirit/shop/home)

Please feel free to call the office at 815-462-2870 with any questions or concerns.



## NELSON RIDGE PICTURE DAY

Nelson Ridge picture day will be:

**Tuesday, September 21.**

Picture retakes will be:

**Tuesday, November 2.**

**SAY CHEESE!**



## SCHOOL SECURITY

In an effort to keep our students in a safe environment, all doors will be locked at all times. **ALL** visitors **must** be buzzed in through the front doors and sign in with the secretaries. There are baskets available in the foyer, along with paper, for dropping items off for your child. Please make sure the items are placed **IN** the grade level basket and your student's name is on the item that is being dropped off.

When picking up your student, please sign them out on the iPad in the foyer. We will call down your student and they will meet you in the foyer. When sending someone to pick up your child, please make sure they have their license ready to be scanned in the office.

# NLSD122 PTO CORNER

nlzd122pto@gmail.com



## WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

There will be another opportunity for calendars. Please make sure to be on the lookout for a form coming soon. We will have calendars to purchase at the September PTO meeting.

We have a lot of fun things planned for this year. Check us out on Facebook and Instagram.

If you would like to get involved with the PTO please visit our website.

Let's get involved in the PTO! The New Lenox School District 122 Parent Teacher Organization is a group of staff representatives from each of our 12 schools, District office, and parents who are invested in helping enhance the school district that our children attend.

Please join us for our monthly meetings, which are held every third Thursday of the month. The meetings will rotate from 9:30 a.m and 7:30 p.m. every month. Our next meeting is September 16<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 p.m at Spencer Trail.

Check our website for any additional information:  
<http://www.newlenoxpto.org>



**UPCOMING EVENTS**  
September 8, 2021  
Creamery New Lenox  
4-9p.m.

Celebrity scooper, Mayor Tim  
Baldermann 4-6:30p.m.  
Celebrity scooper,  
Dr. Motsch 6:30-9p.m.

September 30, 2021 Tom  
Kelley's Dine and Donate

## PARENTS + TEACHERS

## SUCCESSFUL KIDS

# NLSD 122 IS HIRING!

NLSD 122 is seeking interested applicants for paraprofessional positions for the 2021-2022 school year. Paraprofessionals need only to be 19 years of age and show proof of ONE of the following requirements:

- Associate's degree or higher or
- 60 semester hours of college coursework or
- High School Diploma or Equivalency and a score of 460 or higher on the ETS Parapro Test or
- High School Diploma or Equivalency and passing the ACT Work Keys tests

Interested applicants can apply on our website [HERE](#). All positions offer benefits and competitive hourly rates. Please contact Mandy Novotny at [mnovotny@nlsd122.org](mailto:mnovotny@nlsd122.org) with any questions.





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Art Club Girls Basketball Practice	2 Scrapbook Club Girls Basketball Practice	3 Girls Basketball Practice 6:30-7:20am	4
5	6 Girls Basketball Practice	7 Creative Coloring Club Girls Basketball Practice	8 Art Club Student Council Girls Basketball Practice	9 Girls Basketball Practice	10 Girls Basketball Practice 6:30-7:20am	11
12	13 Kindness Club Girls Basketball Practice	14 Just Say No Club Creative Coloring Club Girls Basketball Practice	15 Art Club Girls Basketball Practice	16 Girls Basketball Game @Home vs Bentley 4:00	17 Girls Basketball Practice 6:30-7:20am	18
19	20 Girls Basketball Practice	21 Homework Club Reading Rockets Girls Basketball Game @Oakview 4:00 Girls Basketball Practice School Picture Day	22 Homework Club Art Club Puzzle Club Girls Basketball Practice	23 Homework Club Scrapbook Club Girls Basketball Game @Crossing 4:15	24 Girls Basketball Practice 6:30-7:20am	25
26	27 Homework Club Red Ribbon Club Kindness Club Girls Basketball Practice	28 Homework Club Girls Basketball Practice	29 Homework Club Puzzle Club Girls Basketball Game @Bentley 4:00 Girls Basketball Practice	30 Homework Club Girls Basketball Practice		